

if further such investigations are conducted by comparison. By giving descriptions as well as names I hope this will have been made easier; in several ways *truncata* is an ideal species for such study.

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SELIDOSEMA BRUNNEARIA VILL. (LEP.: GEOMETRIDAE): DIMORPHISM IN WESTERN IRELAND AND DESCRIPTION OF A NEW FORM

BRIAN K. WEST

36 Briar Road, Dartford, Kent DA5 2HN.

IN AUGUST 1974 specimens were collected from a flourishing colony of this insect on the Carboniferous Limestone coast south of Fanore in Co. Clare. Later it became evident that two distinct forms of the male (no females were seen) were present, one with the normal grey ground colour with dark markings including border, the other dull brown with the dark markings less contrasting. Specimens intermediate in character were also seen.

Despite the habitat of grey rocks, this dull brown form seems to be another example of what Kettlewell (1973) terms Western Coastline Melanism, and corresponds with such species as *Eupithecia venosata* Fab. and more especially with *Camptogramma bilineata* L. which on the coast of western Ireland produces both normal and melanistic specimens.

Description of new form

ab. atlantica ab. nov. (Plate A, Fig. 13)

All wings dull, medium to darkish brown, with no trace of grey; discal spot present; terminal fascia darker brown, appearing less contrasting with

ground colour than in normal specimens. Forewing shows purplish tinge in fresh specimens; median fascia usually present to a degree, but other markings (except terminal fascia) usually reduced or absent.

Type: Male Oughtdarra, Co. Clare, 4.viii.1974. B.K. West.

Paratype: Male Oughtdarra, Co. Clare, 4.viii.1974. B.K. West.

Reference

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NEW ABERRATIONS OF BRITISH LEPIDOPTERA

BRIAN K. WEST

36 Briar Road, Dartford, Kent DA5 2HN.

Chloroclysta truncata Hufn. **ab. rufofasciata** ab. nov. (Plate A, Fig. 9)

Forewing: has a well-defined reddish-brown median fascia and basal area, separated one from the other by a slightly paler narrow band which itself has a dark striga running through its centre. The postmedian fascia is whitish ochreous, clearly defined on its inner margin, less so outwardly towards a reddish-brown terminal area, and posteriorly to a reddish-brown blotch on the dorsum close to the tornus. The apical area also reddish-brown, with some paler mottling. Two white dots are present on the lower half of the dorsum.

Type: Male, Kenmare, Co. Kerry, 6.vi.1977. B.K. West.

This form very closely resembles *Lampropteryx suffumata* D. & S.; the two white dots on the dorsum are a distinguishing feature. It is a very bright form, more in character with those frequently encountered in the Scottish Highlands, and quite unlike specimens usually found in Co. Clare.

Ligdia adustata D. & S. **ab. nebulata** ab. nov. (Plate A, Fig. 12)

Forewing: the normal black postmedian fascia is replaced but one of grey coloration, giving much of the forewing a cloudy appearance; the normal black basal area is retained.

Type: Dartford Heath, West Kent, 4.v.1952. B.K. West.

This would seem to be a rare form; it is not represented in the National Collection.

Ecliptopera silaceata D. & S. **ab. reticulata** ab. nov. (Plate A, Fig. 10)

Forewing: brown with all normally pale areas reduced in width to produce a network of pale ochreous lines.

Type: Male, Dartford, West Kent, 10.vii.1988. B.K. West.

Because of the reduction of pale coloration, the specimen has a somewhat melanistic appearance; presumably a rare form.

Plagodis pulveraria L. **ab. effusa** ab. nov. (Plate A, Fig. 11)

Forewing: the dark median fascia lacks a clearly defined outer border, thus merging imperceptibly with the paler ground colour leaving a narrow,